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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, why in the North Arcot district the Brahman boys got more seats and why is it that in the other districts where the Brahman students got more marks were refused admission? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The general principles that have been followed in the selection of candidates has been given in the note that I have given, Sir. The reason for giving 6 seats out of 10 to Brahman boys is due to the non-availability of the candidates from other communities."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Is that a reason for preferring Brahmans with lesser marks from that particular district to those with higher marks from other districts? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Yes, Sir. Government wanted to make the selection districtwar."

Assessment to lands converted into wet under the Wells Scheme.

* 95 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether dry lands converted to garden or wet lands by the help of wells sunk by the cultivators with or without State aid under the Wells Scheme, are liable to additional charge;

(*b*) whether any change in the classification of such converted lands is made involving higher assessment; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that in view of the sustained interest of Government in the Grow More Food campaign the Government do not propose to interfere with the classification or impose additional charge in respect of such converted lands?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) & (*b*) In the Malabar and South Kanara districts, dry lands converted into garden or wet with the help of wells belonging to Government or sunk by the ryots at their own cost with or without Government loans are reclassified and assessed at garden or wet rate. If the dry lands have been converted into garden, they are reclassified and assessed at garden rate as soon as they contain the required number of bearing garden trees. (As to what is the required number, the attention of the Hon. Member is invited to the answer to Legislative Council Question No. 24 given on 17th September 1947.) If the dry lands have been converted into wet, they are reclassified and assessed at wet rate from the fifth year of continuous cultivation of the lands with wet crops.

" In the other districts of the Province, dry lands converted into wet with the help of wells sunk by the ryots at their own cost or with State aid under the Wells Scheme are not reclassified and assessed at wet rate. (The garden classification of lands prevails only in the Malabar and South Kanara districts.)

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"(c) There is no proposal to alter the practice referred to in the answer to clauses (a) and (b). But the whole question of land revenue reform is now engaging the attention of the Government."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to Malabar landholders also?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The position in Malabar is that lands belong to private parties. It is tax that collected and not the rent."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to the Malabar landholders hereafter at least?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"The Government will examine the question but as I have already said the whole question of land revenue reform is under consideration."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—"Since time will be taken for the consideration of the whole question will the Government consider the question of extending the provisions to Malabar for the interim period?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I shall get the question examined, Sir."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE THREATENED STRIKE OF NON-GAZETTED SERVICE ASSOCIATIONS.

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I have to inform the House that notice of the following motion for adjournment of the House has been received from Mr. Abdul Latif Farooki Sahib :—

'I intend moving for the adjournment of the House to consider the grave situation created by the decision of the Non-gazetted Officers' Association and the various Service Associations in the Presidency to go on strike throughout the whole Presidency and the threat by the Government to withdraw the recognition of the Madras Secretariat Association and to take disciplinary action against the members thereof.'

11-30 a.m. "I should like to know the position of the Government."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"This is a matter which concerns the services. It is not right that the service should get into a frame of indiscipline and coerce the Government to adopt a certain procedure. I might also inform the House that it is only very recently that the pay of the services had been increased very substantially and if further additions to that increment ought to be made, it is a matter for consideration by several departments. It is not as if the Government could act on a threat of a strike and give increased pay, particularly to the services which